



ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

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The Alexandria Gazette Corporation.

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## THE SCHOOL QUESTION

On Tuesday night the Common Council will hold a special session to consider the resolution to appropriate sufficient money for the purchase of a high school site; this resolution has already passed the Board of Aldermen, by a unanimous vote, and it is to be sincerely hoped that the action of that body will be concurred in. The question of location is one of secondary importance, and the measure should not be defeated on that account. The main issue is to buy a site somewhere and build the school, so that we will not be dependent upon Washington for high school facilities. The importance of free schools cannot be overestimated. Most of us are inclined to take the free schools as a matter of course without pausing to consider the real fundamental purpose. The free school is the plane where all creeds, classes, conditions and nationalities of human beings meet on a common level, and begin life's race. The free school puts into effect the immortal declaration that "All men are born free and equal;" and to the end that all men may continue free and equal, was founded the system of public education. In order for each community to perpetuate its equality and identity, it is necessary that the system of free schools be kept up to the standard set by other communities. It may be true that the schools of Alexandria are fifty per cent better than they were a generation ago, but it may also be true that those surrounding us are a hundred per cent better, in which case we are not keeping up the required standard. Until a year ago, the pupils completing the eighth grade, were as high as our facilities would take them, and must look elsewhere for further education. But with room to carry on and keep up the high school started last year, the children of Alexandria will be able to obtain as good a free school education as the children of Washington. The high school enrollment is increasing at the rate of one hundred pupils a year, and the problem that confronts the school board, with every available room crowded, is what to do with the increase next session. The solution rests with the City Council.

## THE GOVERNOR'S STAFF

The Governor's staff is one of those questions which the newspapers with a cultivated sense of humor seem to be unable to treat seriously. The Newport News Times-Herald, however, lays aside its weapons of wit for once to make a strong plea for this portion of the gubernatorial establishment. Although Alexandria has not had a colonel on the staff for many years and there is little prospect of our being so honored we cannot help agreeing with our contemporary, who writes as follows:

The Governor has many social functions to perform and he cannot accept every invitation that he receives. But when not present on occasions here and there he has a personal representative on the ground, a man of culture and good manners to represent him and do the honors. Frequently there are functions at the Executive Mansion in Richmond, where the presence of members of the staff is indispensable.

You may call this "fuss and feathers" if you like, but life would be very stale and stupid, without its social functions.

But that is not all to be said in favor of the Governor's staff. The members are his personal friends and are in position to keep him advised as to what is going on in various parts of the State; what the people are saying and what movements there may be in the interest of progress and the public welfare. Through them he keeps in touch with all the people whom he represents, and that must be a great help and comfort to a man in public life.

What harm can there be in such an adjunct? It costs the state nothing; it aids the Governor and it helps to foster the spirit of chivalry in the Old Dominion.

The prejudice against the staff seems to be in the title of the members. Abolish the "colonel" if you will, Mr. General Assembly, but save the staff.

There is a lot of good sense in the above view. The compromise bill before the Legislature now provides for the retention of one half of the staff, as now constituted, with the other half from the military of the state.

"Abolish the colonels if you will," suggests our contemporary, but keep the staff. The compromise bill does not abolish the military title, however, and it is to this that the military of the State object. In all official functions these worthy gentlemen, some of whom have had no military training or experience, outrank officers of the military who have been for years devoting their time to the service.

To give up the rank of colonel and the gold braid would cut a good deal of eclat out of the position, but it would be an eminently sensible solution of the question.

There would be equally as much real honor in being an aide to the Governor without a deceptive title and it would place a value on real military titles in the State that they should honorably possess and do not now enjoy.

Such an arrangement would not only retain the Governor the social and advisory advantages he now enjoys in the possession of a staff, but it would bring him into closer and more cordial relations with the military, of which, by virtue of his office, he is the commander-in-chief.

## CHESTERFIELD'S APPEAL

The Chesterfield delegation, before the Senate Committee on Public Instruction last evening appealed to the Legislature to take up the matter of investigating the methods of the State Department on Public Instruction.

They charge gross negligence and favoritism in the conduct of the schools in that county, and, exhausting every avenue through the superintendent to the Board of Education on up to the Governor—they appealed to the Legislature. It was understood in the beginning that the department was not averse to the inquiry, and Mr. Eggleston was quoted as saying he courted an investigation, but he was challenged before the committee last night to make his attitude known, and kept silent, leaving the natural conclusion that he is opposed to having the affairs of his department looked into.

The committee has a grave responsibility in disposing of this question, and to disregard the appeal of Chesterfield for an investigation of their complaint, when they have exhausted every other means of redress, would be a slap in the face that would be resented the State over.

The matter is being watched in many counties in the State, and to have them to believe that they have no redress for irregularities in the State school department would create wide spread dissatisfaction.

Mr. Eggleston should not only be willing, but eager to clear up these charges.

## SWANSON'S INTERSESSION

Through Senator Swanson, of Virginia, the aged mother of Mattie Lomax, the condemned murderess, yesterday made a plea for Executive clemency. A few days ago the Senator called at the White House and told the President what he thinks of the case. He says it would be a misfortune if the Lomax woman is hanged or even if she is compelled to die in prison.

"I know something about this case," said the Virginia senator. "The mother of Mattie Lomax is the 'black mammy' of the Edmonds family in Halifax county, Virginia. She is one of those fine old colored women of the South who is respected and even loved by the white people as well as by the people of her own race."

"The Edmonds and other prominent people in that section have been wire-

ing and writing to me to try to save Mattie Lomax, and we have been doing all we can. I have investigated the case fully. This poor girl came to Washington to hunt work. Lomax, a brute at heart and by nature ruined her life.

"If Mattie had been in the south and had killed Lomax, no southern jury would ever have convicted her of murder, and no southern judge would ever have imposed more than a few years sentence in prison. Many juries would have acquitted her for killing this man who had caused her as much suffering as he did.

The above shows that respect and sympathy for "black mammys" on the part of representatives of the southern people are not extinct notwithstanding all white people suffered before and after the civil war from fierce abolitionists.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Was anyone ever killed in Alexandria by an explosion?

VETERAN.

There was no one killed by the explosion you refer to. A government steamer, carrying ammunition, took fire one night during the last year of the civil war when near Fort Washington. The crew and soldiers who were aboard took to the boats and reached shore before the explosion took place. The shock of the explosion caused some excitement in this city.

The New World which burned a short distance north of Fishtown during the latter part of the war, was a huge barge. It was the hull of what had been intended as the queen of the Hudson river, but the boat proved a failure, as it never attained the speed expected by her owners. The engines and boilers were subsequently removed and the hull converted into a barge. It was employed by the government at the time of the fire.

The explosion of the magazines of Fort Lyon, overlooking Alexandria, on the hills in Fairfax county, took place the previous year. This was the greatest shock Alexandria ever received up to the time of the earthquake, August 31, 1886.

## Colored Representative in Legislature

Did a colored man ever represent Alexandria in the State Legislature?

POLITICIAN.

George L. Seaton, colored, did serve one term as delegate from Alexandria city and county in the Legislature. He was elected in 1869 with a white man named James T. Close as his colleague. The latter died shortly after the election, and the democrats, having gained material strength in the meantime, elected Reuben Johnson of this city instead of Robert Armstrong, the republican nominee. Reuben Johnson and Geo. L. Seaton died the same year—1881.

## DIDN'T TRUST HIS LAWYER

Shrewd Client Paid Fee In Advance to Learn If He Had Reasonable Chance of Winning.

It was told at luncheon at the Lawyers' club the day before the Equitable building burned down. A group of legal luminaries were gathered about a table discussing the apparent impossibility of insuring the honesty of any man, and it was contended that there was no remedy for it save to pick out your man and trust him absolutely. No matter what safeguards you might hedge him about with, if he was dishonest he would contrive to cheat somehow. One of the lawyers told this story to emphasize his point:

A client went into a lawyer's office in Fulton street and said that he had a grievance with his neighbor and wanted to go to law. He stated all the circumstances of the case and counsel listened attentively. The case fully stated, the client asked:—"Well, those are the facts. Do you think I'm in the right safe enough to win if I go to law with him?"

"If the facts are as stated you certainly have got a case. If I were in your case I should begin suit," answered the lawyer.

"And how much would your fee be for taking the case and pushing it clear through?"

"Oh, I'll see it through for you for a hundred dollars."

The shrewd client produced from an inside pocket a wall worn wallet, from which he extracted a roll of bills and peeled off one hundred dollars.

"There," said he, "that's yours. It's your fee. That's all you'd get if you tried the case. Now, without doing any work on it at all, just tell me, honestly, whether I've any chance of winning the case."

## ROSENFELD

518-20 King Street.

## Window Shades

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Any Size, Color or Quality.

Estimates Cheerfully Given.

Give us a trial.

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Grocers

## ALEXANDRIA-VA.

Loudoun Co. Roll Butter, pound, 30c  
Three Large Cans Tomatoes - - 30c  
Three Cans Corn - - - - - 25c  
Three Cans Peas - - - - - 25c  
Four Cans String Beans - - - 25c  
Three Cans Sour Kraut - - - 25c  
Two Cans Table Peaches - - - 25c  
Sweet Cider, gallon - - - - - 20c

## Wm. P. Woolls and Son.

Royal and Wolfe Streets.

## Seasonable Foods

at Reduced Prices.

Heintz Mince-meat makes delicious Pies, per pound ..... 15c  
Mother's Gelatine one of the best 3 packages ..... 25c.  
Large Meaty Prunes put up in one and two pound cartons per pound 15c.

## TURKEYS.

Fresh lot every Friday from Midland, order early please.

## EDWARD QUINN &amp; SONS,

Pure Food and Tea Store.  
St. Asaph and Oronoco Sts.

## Wm. H. Peck

PAYNE AND QUEEN STREETS.

Groceries, Meats and Provisions, Flour and Feed, Nails, Glass, etc.

Carload lot of Wood, Coal, Lime, Cement, Plaster, Roofing and Terra Cotta Sewer Pipe.

Either Phone 192.

## Delicious Cake

Orange Cake, Silver Cakes, Cream Sponge. All kinds of Pastries. Charlotte Russe will be delivered fresh, also Ice Cream.

## H. Bloch.

615 King Street.  
Both Phones 1

You are probably aware that pneumonia always results from a cold, but you never heard of a cold resulting in pneumonia when Chamberlain's Cough Remedy was used. Why take the risk when this remedy may be had for a trifle? For sale by W. F. Creighton and Richard Gibson.

It has been cold and then some, but a better day is coming, and to dress to meet the happy occasion and for comfort, a pair of the Red Cross Shoes, sold by Marshall, is essential.

## No More Colds

It is a big satisfaction to feel safe. It is a big satisfaction to be free. It is a big satisfaction to know that you can be both safe and free from colds.

## QUYBON

give you the result you want.

QUYBON accomplish quick results. They are a scientific cold and grippe cure.

## E. S. Leadbeater &amp; Sons

DRUGGISTS  
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We will give you such a specification, follow your instructions closely and use high grade fixtures, the "Standard" make.

Plan your bathroom now and let us help you plan so that you can get the most satisfactory results.

## J. C. GATES

111 South Pitt Street.

If you want the best, that will stand the test, at work or rest, buy your footwear at John A. Marshall & Bro.

SAMUEL H. LUNT, Auctioneer  
TRUSTEES' SALE OF HOUSE AND LOT, Alexandria, Va.

By virtue of authority vested in me by a certain deed of trust, dated July 6, 1910 and recorded in deed book 53, page 552, a Land Record, of Alexandria, Virginia, wherein Henry H. Waring conveyed certain lots of ground and improvements to the undersigned trustee to secure the payment of certain notes therein set forth, default having been made in the payment of the notes therein secured, on the request of the holder of the said notes, I will offer for sale at public auction, at the entrance of the Market Building, on Royal street, Alexandria, Virginia, Saturday, February 21, 1912, at 12 o'clock M., all of said property described as follows in said trust deed:

1. All that certain lot of ground, with the buildings and other improvements thereon, and all appurtenances thereto belonging or in any way appertaining, situated on the west side of Columbus street, between Wilkes and Gibbons streets, Alexandria, Virginia, and described as follows: Beginning on the west side of Columbus street, 40 feet south of Wilkes street, running thence west parallel with Wilkes street, 117 feet 6 inches to an alley 11 feet 10 inches wide, thence south on said alley 20 feet; thence east parallel with Wilkes street, 117 ft. 6 in. to Columbus St. and thence north on Columbus St. 20 ft. to the place of beginning, with the use of said alley in common with others entitled thereto, references to said deed is made for description. This house and lot is sold subject to a trust of \$500.00.

Terms of sale, cash, transfer at the cost of purchaser.  
ROBBY D. BRUMBACK  
Trustee.

2-13-10d.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

THE annual meeting of the stockholders of the Woodley Apartment House Company, incorporated in the District of Columbia, will be held at the office of Gardner L. Booth, esq., Alexandria National Bank Building, Alexandria, Va., on Monday, February 26, 1912, at 2 o'clock p. m.

B. W. PARKER, Secretary.

THE annual meeting of the stockholders of the Parkwood Apartment House Company, incorporated in the District of Columbia, will be held at the office of Gardner L. Booth, esq., Alexandria National Bank Building, Alexandria, Va., on Monday, February 26, 1912, at 2 o'clock p. m.

B. W. PARKER, Secretary.

THE annual meeting of the stockholders of the Airy View Apartment House Company, incorporated in the District of Columbia, will be held at the office of Gardner L. Booth, esq., Alexandria National Bank Building, Alexandria, Va., on Monday, February 26, 1912, at 2 o'clock p. m.

B. W. PARKER, Secretary.

Now in our mind's eye we can almost see the blue bird and hear him sing, we know that a pair of Regal, Hess or Brocton Co-Operative Shoes, sold by Marshall, will be the thing for spring.

## SWAN Bros.

King and Pitt Streets

## Men's Dress Requirements

In our Men's Department will be found a complete line of the proper men's requirements for day and evening dress. The newest and best, will be found, strictly in accordance with the "Haber-dasher Dress Chart" which is the recognized authority on men's dress apparel.

## Men's White Dress Shirts

The Monarch with cuffs attached or detached, each ..... \$1.00  
The Cluett or Arrow, with cuffs attached each ..... \$1.50  
The Manhattan, Cuffs detached, each ..... \$1.50  
The Manhattan, Cuffs attached, each ..... \$2.00

## Men's Evening Vests

Men's white Evening Vests, "The Yeska Make," each ..... \$2.50

## Men's Dress Gloves.

Adler's white kid Gloves pair ..... \$1.50  
Adler's tan walking Gloves pair ..... \$1.50  
Adler's gray suede Gloves pair ..... \$1.50  
Fowles tan walking Gloves pair ..... \$2.00

## Men's Plaited Jewelry.

Cuff Buttons pair 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00.  
Shirt Studs plated and white pearl, set 25c and ..... 50c  
Scarf Pins, each 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00.  
Scarf holders each 10c, 15c, 25c and 50c.  
Arrow Collars, 2 for ..... 25c.  
Arrow Cuffs, 2 for ..... 25c  
E. & W. Cuffs, (all linen,) pair ..... 25c  
White Dress Ties each 15c, 25c and 50c  
Lisle Hosiery pair 25c and ..... 50c  
Silk Hosiery pair 50c, 75c and \$1.00  
Handkerchiefs each 10c, 15c, 25c, 35c, and ..... 50c  
Night Robes each 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50  
Pajamas, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50 and ..... \$3.00

## Swan Bros.

## Now Is The Time To Buy

That lot you have been thinking for a long time that you should buy as a site for the home you want to build.

## Here is the Place to Buy

a building site anywhere you want it. We can offer at the lowest figure possible all of the few remaining building sites that are left, and they are few, in a good location, in

## ALEXANDRIA CITY

Here are also the headquarters for "The Rosemont Man," where you can get the choice of the few remaining lots on Rosemont Avenue, in

## ROSEMONT

Also in the new section opened up last summer. Sixteen lots sold in the new section already, so you need to act quickly if you want a choice site. Buy now before the spring rush begins.

## Slaymaker-Schneider Corp'n.

612 KING STREET